Application Ser. No. 10/678,838 Attorney Docket No. 4946-006

REMARKS

Applicant elects the claims of Group II (claims 1-30) with traverse.

Applicant notes that the Examiner assigns the claims of Group II to class 198, subclass 642; and assigns the claims of Group I (claims 31-39) to class 414, subclass 809. Applicant further notes that the class definition for class 198/642 directs the Examiner to search class 414. As such, Applicant submits that no significant additional burden would be placed on the Examiner in examining both claim groups simultaneously. In this regard, the Examiner's attention is directed to MPEP §803, which reads in relevant part "If the search and examination of all the claims in an application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine them on the merits, even though they include claims to independent or distinct inventions."

Accordingly, Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement.

Respectfully submitted, COATS & BENNETT, P.L.L.C.

Dated: 20 March 2006

John R. Owen

Registration No.: 42,055 Telephone: (919) 854-1844 Facsimile: (919) 854-2084